

HIGH TWELVE INTERNATIONAL, INC.
93rd Annual Convention Minutes
Springfield Masonic Community, Springfield, Ohio
June 28, 2014

Opening Ceremonies:

- The convention was called to order by James B. Parker, IV, International President at 9:50 AM on Saturday June 28, 2014
- President Parker introduced the President of the Springfield Masonic Community. President Parker then told us a bit about the changes that have occurred over the years since he has been on the board of trustees.
- Invocation was given by Jon Silver Feather, International Chaplain
- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Winton E. Hewitt, 1st Vice-President and was followed by the Toast to the Flag
- 10:05 AM - Rev. Jon Silver Feather, International Chaplain was then introduced and conducted the Necrology Service. Jon was aided by the President and Vice-Presidents who took turns reading the names of 193 deceased brothers. This was followed by an inspiring sermon by Jon.

General Session:

- 11:00 AM – Roll Call: Kevin Hokerk, International Secretary ran through the roll call and a quorum was established
- **Introductions** – All International Past Presidents were introduced and given a warm welcome
- **Minutes of the January 19-21, 2014 Mid Year Conference** were approved as printed in the report packet pages 3-9, that all attendee's received with their registration. *[The report packet will be referred to as RP going forward]*
- **Mid-Year** – Winton Hewitt asked the assembly where they would like to meet for the January 2015 Mid-Year meeting. A discussion was held on alternate meeting states, types of venues, ease of travel to the site and weather considerations being this would be January.
- **Wolcott Report** – Malcolm White, Chairman, Wolcott Foundation gave a verbal report on the status of the foundation, the candidate selection process, how to make donations and how the members of High Twelve International can, should and need to support their principle charity of High Twelve International
- **Update on Masonry Worldwide** – Ross V. N. Bayer, PIP – although Ross could not attend his report is included in the RP pages 12-14
- **Past International President's Report** – Donald M. Whistler, PIP – we met this morning for breakfast in the dining hall and have the following six recommendations:
 1. Convention planning needs to start 2-3 years in advance to secure the venue and price
 2. Hold the convention at the host hotel
 3. Have the hotel booked 2 years in advance and publish the basic information
 4. Registration handouts etc. need to be handed out/available the day before the convention starts
 5. Nominated officer qualifications need to be available for all to see
 6. Uniform Association Bylaws – to be tabled until Mid-Year 2015
 - Armand Cote – the MI Association did not have time to review, they need to resent to the new incoming association presidents prior to mid-year and bring them up again at the next mid-year meeting to be voted upon at 94th Convention

- **Presidents Round Table** – did not meet
- **International Officers’ Reports** are in the RP pages 15-22
- **Committee Reports:**
 1. **Editor of High Twelvian** – Kevin Hokerk- RP page 28
 2. **Long Range Planning** – Jim Parker – this committee needs to be moved further down the officer line so we are looking forward a couple of years vs. a sitting president looking to the end of his year
 3. **Jewelry** – Jim Parker - Bro. Sid Leluan, PIP has been looking for someone to take over this function. Bro. William “Bill” Lofquist, also of Tucson AZ, has volunteered and is ready to take over
 4. **Constitution and Bylaws** – Proposed Changes – Kevin Hokerk – RP page 42
 5. **94th Convention 2015** – Winton Hewitt – we are looking for ways to raise funds and interest for this convention. We have decided on a raffle and have tickets available. The prizes are a Time Share at The Pines in Virginia, a masonic watch and a fleece lined jacket. Tickets are 1 for \$10 or 3 for \$20. It was mentioned that in OH the Grand Lodge has prohibited ‘raffles.’ So if your ‘chance’ tickets say raffle on them you cannot sell them here. A suggestion was made to have each association donate an item(s) or dollars for a cash prize.
- **Don Holland of the MSC** announced that the museum is open inquire at the ice cream parlor for a tour
 6. **Wally’s Fund Report** – Don Galway – the Meryl Lynch account was closed on 3/31 and moved to Morgan Stanley, (\$82,792.89). As of 5/31 the funds value was \$92,223.64 (not funded by EC Wolcott Trust any longer). Recommend moving a portion to aggressive funds. Don Whistler, moved to table this recommendation and to let the executive board address this as provided in the bylaws. M/S/P
 7. **Endowment Fund** – Don Whistler – RP pages 24-27 – described an endowment fund and provided a detail report summary of fund activity showing a market value as of 5/31/14 of \$156,424.33 with a net income of \$1,335.44 which is available for the 2014-15 budget per bylaws
 8. **Nominations 1st Report** – Jim Parker as Ross Bayer was not able to attend:
 - President: Winton E. Hewitt, PA
 - 1st VP: Jerry L. Saville, CA
 - 2nd VP: Richard A Kessler, AZ
 - 3rd VP: No candidate
 - Secretary: Kevin Hokerk, AZ
 - Treasurer: No candidate
 - Nominations from the floor: Treasurer – Donald M. Whistler, PA
 - **NOTE:** Kevin Hokerk – an email was received indicating that Michael Lavell of NCA wanted to run for office however the required documents per the bylaws were not turned in at this convention for a nomination from the floor to be made. Donald Whistler, PIP nomination papers received per the bylaws and his name was placed into nomination for Treasurer.

Break for Wolcott Foundation Luncheon

Todd Brighton, Wolcott Fellow, was the guest speaker. He told us about his experiences with the program and his government service. He also did a presentation on the War of 1812 and had a large display of artifacts. This was an excellent presentation.

General Session Reconvenes @ 2:45 PM

9. **2015 Mid-Year Location:** Winton Hewitt - further discussion was held on this subject: Merv Harris, PIP, talked about other locations in Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida or in the central part of the country. It was M/S/P to return to Las Vegas, NV, specific details to be determined later and published in the winter edition of the High Twelvian, Monthly Update and website.
- **Old Business:**
 1. **Website & Membership Database Demo:** Kevin Hokerk walked through the projected web site to show the various features and information available. Instructions were given on how to 'register' for the sight in order to see the membership directory and the information provided. The membership database was briefly touched upon due to time constraints.
 - **New Business:**
 1. **Fundraisers for 2014-15:** Don Whistler discussed the current Pocket Planner and Labels (RP 37-38) programs and the recommendation was to continue with both programs as we have made a net profit of some \$6,700.00 so far.
 2. **2013-2014 Budget to Actual Review:** Don Whistler walked through the report and answered questions (RP 39-41)
 3. **2014-2015 Proposed Budget:** Don Whistler handed out the proposed budget and explained the differences between the two years. It was M/S/P to adopt the proposed budget.
 4. **Uniform Club Bylaws Amendment #1:** Jim Parker, the proposed Amendment #1 was read by the secretary, a short discussion period was held and it was M/S/P to adopt Amendment #1.
 5. **Uniform Association Bylaws:** Jim Parker, was tabled by an earlier action to the 2015 Mid-Year meeting
 6. **Final Nomination Report:** Jim Parker for Ross Bayer
 - President: Winton E. Hewitt, PA
 - 1st VP: Jerry L. Saville, CA
 - 2nd VP: Richard A Kessler, AZ
 - 3rd VP: William H. Haynes, PA
 - Secretary: Kevin Hokerk, AZ
 - Treasurer: Donald M. Whistler, PIP, PA
 - Note: William Haynes was nominated from the floor by Armand Cote, PIP for the office of 3rd VP per the bylaws procedure.
 7. **Election of Officers for 2014-15:** Jim Parker, you have heard the final nomination report, being there are no contested offices I will entertain a motion for the secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate of officers. It was M/S/P and the secretary cast a unanimous ballot. Jim Parker then asked each elected officer if they would serve and all indicated that they would.
 - **State President's Reports:** additional comments were made (RP pages 51-56)
 - **Unfinished Business:** Jim Parker – None
 - **Closing Remarks:** Jim Parker

The General Session was recessed @ 5:00 PM for the President's Banquet and Installation of Officer's

James B. Parker, IV, International President called the gathering to order, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Winton E. Hewitt, President Elect; the invocation was given by Jon Silver Feather, International Chaplain, after which dinner was served.

James B. Parker, IV made some closing remarks for his year then introduced Mervyn J. Harris, PIP as the installing officer. Merv utilized the other PIP's present to install the following officers:

- President: Winton E. Hewitt, PA
- 1st VP: Jerry L. Saville, CA
- 2nd VP: Richard A Kessler, AZ
- 3rd VP: William H. Haynes, PA
- Secretary: Kevin Hokerk, AZ
- Treasurer: Donald M. Whistler, PIP, PA
- Chaplain: Jon Silver Feather, CA
- General Counsel: William E. Wilkinson, AZ
- Parliamentarian: Malcolm S. White, CA
- Sargent-At-Arms: James R. Morris, IL
- Endowment Fund Trustee 1yr: Richard L. Anderson, NCA
- Endowment Fund Trustee 2yr: Donald L. Galway, MI
- Endowment Fund Trustee 3yr: Roger H. Hansen, PIP, NCA

Roger H. Hansen, PIP made the proclamation declaring the officers to be duly and truly installed.

Winton E. Hewitt, International President addressed the gathering and thanked everyone for their support. He then presented Immediate Past President, Jim Parker his PIP's jewel and plaque. Jim Parker then presented Winton his gavel and sounding block.

There being no further business to come before this convention Jon Silver Feather gave a benediction and Winton E. Hewitt, International President declared the convention closed.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin L. Hokerk
International Secretary